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STATINTL

Fulbright Asks Flexible Course On Communists

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—Sen. J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., says there is no acceptable alternative to a policy of building "bridges of accommodation" with the Communist world in the nuclear age.

"The choice before us in our relations with the Communist world is not between victory and defeat," the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee said, "but between mutual accommodation and mutual annihilation."

Fulbright said this policy of accommodation must be linked with two other "bedrocks of the grand strategy of American national security"—(1) Maintenance of the world's most powerful nuclear deterrent and (2) support of a "vigorous Atlantic alliance."

He voiced his views in an address yesterday at the all-university convocation at Southern Methodist University.

"The usefulness and desirability of a clear and quick victory over all our aversaries can be debated," Fulbright said, "but such a debate must be academic because the option of complete victory does not exist."

Clarifies Policy

He said the time has come to acknowledge, however regretfully, that "it is not open to us to remove the threat of communism from the world but that it is open to us to build bridges to the Communist world and in so doing to influence the course which it follows in a direction compatible with our own safety and the peace of the world."

Fulbright said the purpose of a policy of accommodation with the Communists is the same as that of the nuclear deterrent

and the NATO Alliance: "To reduce the Communist appetite for expansion, and thereby to increase our national security." He said the United States "must differentiate carefully between one Communist country and another," rewarding those which show a greater inclination "to confine the practice of their ideology within their own frontiers, and to enter into friendly relations with the West."

Suggests Sanctions

But he said it must withhold its rewards and, when necessary, apply sanctions "against those which pursue expansionist policies."

"When we engage in cordial political relations with the Yugoslavs, and accord them most-favored-nation treatment in trade," Fulbright said, "we are demonstrating to other Communist states of Eastern Europe, in the most persuasive possible way, that there are attractive rewards to be gained by the adoption of friendly policies toward the West."

"Poland and Hungary represent a lower gradation in the evolution of Communist states. Poland . . . has regressed somewhat in the last few years toward more passive acceptance of Soviet leadership, and for this reason, I would think no new American initiatives are in order for the time being."

"As to Hungary, I think it is time for the United States to take cognizance of the (Premier Janos) Kadar regime's progress and internal liberalization by re-establishing the full diplomatic relations that were suspended at the time of the revolution, and perhaps as well by opening discussions for educational and cultural exchanges."